

N

E

S

S

U

M

M

A

R

Y

## U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Office of the Secretary Press Service



Release - Immediate.

September 19, 1922.

## HUNTERS SHOULD CONSULT GAME LAWS FOR 1922

All persons contemplating hunting in any State or Territory in the United States or in Canada are advised by the United States Department of Agriculture to obtain from the State game commissioner of that State or Territory the full text of its game laws. A summary of the provisions of Federal, State, and Provincial Statutes, and a list of officials from whom copies of State game laws may be obtained, is contained in Farmers' Bulletin 1288, Game Laws for 1922, by George A. Lawyer, chief United States game warden, and Frank L. Earnshaw. The bulletin is available free upon application to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

The object of the bulletin is to aid in the administration of the provisions of the migratory-bird treaty act and the Lacey act, by presenting in convenient form the provisions of game legislation for the use of law-enforcement officials, sportsmen, conservationists, and others.

It is only by observing the open season dates published in the bulletin that hunters of migratory game birds can avoid violating either Federal or State Laws, as the Federal regulations operate in many cases to shorten the seasons fixed by State statute.

NOTE TO EDITOR: The continuation of the story may be added to the above by those publications desiring further details.

Provisions relating to seasons, licenses, limits, possession, sale, and export, and a few miscellaneous matters are presented under State and Territorial governments and also for the Canadian Provinces. These are alphabetically arranged in the bulletin to furnish a brief and convenient synopsis of the laws.

Provisions relating to methods of capture, game refuges, enforcement of laws. disposition of fees and fines, and matters of minor importance are

omitted from the bulletin. These may be found by reference to the laws themselves, obtainable in most of the States from proper officials.

Comparatively few game laws were passed in 1922, and no radical changes were made. A rather comprehensive game law was enacted in Mississippi, but it does not become effective in any county until adopted by the county board of supervisors. Earlier opening dates were provided for water-fowl in New Mexico and for doves in the Carolinas, Mississippi and Louisiana but the closing dates in each instance were advanced accordingly. A number of changes in State laws, making them conform to Federal limits, were made.

The Attorney General of New York on August 28 held inoperative a State law attempting to extend the State season on water-fowl beyond the dates provided by Federal regulations for the section of the State south of the main line of the New York Central and Boston and Albany railroads, and that the open season on water-fowl throughout the State, outside of Long Island, remains as formerly, September 16 to December 31.

New Jersey requires persons hunting woodcock from October 1 to November 9 to take out a special license costing \$2 in addition to the regular hunting license. Chinese and ring-necked pheasants are now protected throughout the year for an indefinite period in Maryland, where an attempt is being made to establish the species. Virginia prohibited the baiting of wild turkeys or the taking of their eggs, except for propagating purposes under permit from the commissioner. The close season for quail in Massachusetts has been continued until 1925 in Dukes, Essex, Hampden, Middlesex, and Nantucket Counties.

The open seasons for big game were reduced in several instances. A law was passed in Virginia sanctioning the practice of the department of game and inland fisheries of establishing game refuges on private lands by contract with the owners. All lands so set aside are required to be conspicuously posted as State game sanctuaries.

Regulations pertaining to the propagation and sale of migratory waterfowl and game are given. The text of the Lacey and migratory-bird treaty
acts and regulations pertaining to them in this country and also in Canada,
is included.